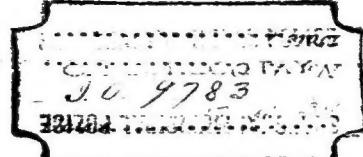


IO-9783

Date



Arms Licensing Section

C. B. Headquarters,

May 27th, 1931.

D. C. (Crime)

IN RE SQUIRES BINGHAM LTD.

Sir,

With reference to the attached I have called on Mr. Squires as instructed and he states that in future he will send a letter giving full particulars of any firearm received for disposal, he will also deliver a letter and the pistol to this office after the approval of the Police has been received.

At this interview Mr. Squires stated that he had on many occasions approached the Chinese Customs for a huchao to enable him to import ten pistols but has been refused, Mr. Squires implied that had permission be granted by the Customs he would keep same in the Customs Godown until a sale was effected. The above is passed to you for information please.

Adoor
D. S. I.

Adoor
27/5/31

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
(CRIME BRANCH)
Memorandum.

FM. 1

POLICE FORCE.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

To

J. H. (C.A.S.)

23. 5. 1931

In view of his
opinion please have
C.I. soon call on
Mr. Sturier & ask him
to arrest us by
not buying any pistol
without notifying us
as we may some time
find one which is
indexed for a crime.
Also request him to
refuse to sell any article
the police approve of
purchase. (W 25% A.C.A.)

PHONE
12040
12050

Shanghai Municipal Council



Office of the Municipal Advocate

Shanghai, May 22, 1931.

Deputy Commissioner,
Crime & Special Branches.

In re Squires, Bingham, Ltd.

I am pleased to comply with your request for an opinion relative to the above entitled matter. The facts may be briefly epitomized as follows:

Squires, Bingham, Ltd. have from time to time sold arms and ammunition. This corporation does not have a license either from the American authorities or the Municipal Council to engage in the business of selling arms and ammunition. Squires, Bingham, Ltd. has from time to time reported to the Police the sale of pistols and the persons to whom such pistols are delivered. The Municipal Council, although it has power under Bye-law 35 to issue licenses to persons who sell firearms, other than those used solely for sporting purposes, does not issue such licenses to anyone whatsoever. The question for opinion is whether Messrs. Squires, Bingham, Ltd. is guilty of an offense under American law.

Section 857 of the District of Columbia Code makes it an offense to engage in or conduct the business of selling, bartering, hiring or lending weapons without having previously obtained from the Commissioners of the District of Columbia a special license authorizing the conduct of such business by such person. It is doubtful whether or not this section can be applied to American citizens residing in

China,

In the case of Royal vs. State of Virginia, 29 Law Ed., at page 735, the Supreme Court of the United States held that where an applicant for a license has complied with the necessary procedure and tendered the required tax, and the licensing authority has refused to issue the license, such applicant may, without a license, pursue his business or profession, which is not unlawful in itself and which he has a constitutional right to prosecute.

The sale of arms and ammunition under American law, except to minors, is not in itself unlawful.

It appears that it would be no use for Messrs. Squires Bingham, Ltd. to apply for a license to the Municipal Council because same would not be granted, as the granting of licenses to sell arms is contrary to the Council's policy.

The opinion is therefore given that Messrs. Squires, Bingham, Ltd. are not guilty of an offense under American law.

I have discussed this matter with Dr. Sellett, the United States District Attorney. Dr. Sellett has interviewed Mr. Squires. I am informed that Mr. Squires told Dr. Sellett that the Police agreed to be satisfied if he would report to them any sales of pistols. He contends that he has complied with this understanding. He further says that he is willing to cooperate with the police in every possible way. On looking through the file, it would appear that Squires, Bingham, Ltd. has always informed the police when pistols have been sold, although the information may have been given tardily. The United States District Attorney feels that Mr. Squires is acting in good faith; that he is not in the business of gun-running, smuggling or selling arms and ammunition in large quantities.

It

It is doubted whether or not the statements made on page 2 of D. S. I. Toon's Report, dated May 15, 1931, can be substantiated by evidence.

R. J. Bryan Jr.
Municipal Advocate.

RTB/J

Enc. File on subject
aforenamed.

THE CODE OF LAW FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Section 857, page 211.

Selling, and so forth to minors.

Any person or persons who shall, within the District of Columbia, sell, barter, hire, lend, or give to any minor under the age of twenty-one years any such weapon as hereinbefore described shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined not more than one hundred dollars or be imprisoned not more than three months or both. No person shall engage in or conduct the business of selling, bartering, hiring, lending, or giving any weapon or weapons of the kind hereinbefore named without having previously obtained from the Commissioners of the District of Columbia a special license authorizing the conduct of such business by such person, and the said Commissioners are hereby authorized to grant such license, without fee therefor, upon the filing with them by the applicant therefor of a bond, with sureties to be by them approved, conditioned in such penal sum as they shall fix, to the United States, for the compliance by said applicant with all the provisions of this section, and upon any breach or breaches of said condition said bond shall be put in suit by said United States for its benefit, and said Commissioners may revoke said license. Any person engaging in said business

without having previously obtained said special license shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars, of which one-half shall be paid to the informer, if any, whose information shall lead to the conviction of the person paying said fine; and in default of payment of said fine shall be imprisoned for not more than six months. All persons whose business is to sell, barter, hire, lend, or give any such weapon or weapons shall be, and they hereby are, required to keep a written register of the name and residence of every purchaser, barterer, hirer, borrower, or donee of any such weapon or weapons, together with a full description of such weapon, which register shall be subject to the inspection of the major and superintendent of the Metropolitan police of the District of Columbia; and, further, to make a report, under oath, on or before the first Tuesday of each and every month, to said major and superintendent of all such sales, barterings, hirings, lendings, or gifts, together with the respective names and residences of the person buying or receiving such weapon. Any person failing to keep such register or to make such reports shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars and the Commissioners may revoke his license.

Memorandum.POLICE FORCE,
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

To

F. B. I. 1931

Please let me have
an opinion on
the question of
American law in
reference to sale of
arms. He has no
license, in fact there
are no licenses for sale
of arms at present
although bye law
provides for such.
No crossed weapons

D. C. (CRIME)

Date

~~(Confidential)~~ Office Notes

Arms Licensing Section

S. B. Headquarters,

May 15th, 1931.

P.A. (S. B.)

Sir,

On the 14/5/31 a Mr. Lee representing the Shanghai Commercial & Savings Bank Ltd. came to this office and requested information as to the procedure necessary to enable him to change two pistols carried by C.P.W. at present armed with Police weapons, who are employed at the North Szechuan Road branch.

Pistols not seen at H.S.B. but supposed to be in possession of Bank personnel

On being asked re the source of supply of the pistols, he stated that same had been purchased from Messrs. Squires, Bingham Ltd, one being a Bayard, the other a Remington.

As the arming of C.P.W. does not come under this Section I referred Mr. Lee to Assistant Commissioner (Chinese) for information.

I communicated with Supt Liang of A.C. (C) office and he stated that he had instructed Mr. Lee to produce the pistols.

Letter handed over to A.C.C.O. for record, 25/5/31
This morning Mr. Lee in company with Mr. Squires came to this office and Mr. Squires produced the pistols together with the attached letter. X

We have trace of the Remington, this was previously licenced under No.680 in the name of H. Gulick (since deceased) and bears S.M.P. registration No. Y.746.

The other pistol has not been recorded in this office and according to Mr. Squires was the property of J. B. Spunt 1363 Rue Lafayette.

Date

(Excluded from classification)

(2)

Whilst on this subject I would like to bring to your notice the apparently unbusinesslike method that Squires, Bingham Ltd. have in dealing with arms which are taken to them for disposal.

Apparently no record is kept by this firm of any such firearms as will be seen from the attached correspondence wherein they disposed of the same firearm to two different persons.

As the matter stands at present there appears to be no definite instructions regarding this firm dealing in arms and I therefore submit this report for a ruling on this subject please.

Adsoor

D. S. I.

STEVENS CHAIRMAN

"EVERYTHING USED IN THE WORLD OF SPORT AND RECREATION"

52 NANKING ROAD
P. O. BOX 819
MERGED WITH
SPORTS LTD.

SQUIRES, BINGHAM LTD.
INCORPORATED IN HONG KONG
ATHLETIC & SPORTS GOODS

W. SQUIRES GEN. MANAGER.
S. SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL F.
C. I. D. REGISTRY
No. 1. O... 9783
Rule... 3. CABLE ADDRESS:
"SQUIS"
PHONE: 14770

SHANGHAI.

Nov. 28th 30*

S.M.C. Police Dept.

Arms Section.

Gentlemen :

In reference to the sale of one Automatic pistol which we imported and sold to Mr Perputuo of the S.M.C Revenue Office, we wish to explain that when the man called for the gun we stated that we were to deliver the gun to your office to be turned over to the purchaser when permit had been granted.

He informed us that he had a licence for the gun and would himself take the gun to your office.

As he was employed in the Revenue office and near your office I let him take the gun for delivery to your office instead of taking it over myself.

He promised to deliver it to you at once and we have since learned that he did not do so.

We will see to it that hereafter we will personally deliver all sales directly to your office.

Trusting this will be satisfactory.

Respectfully

Squires Bingham Co

W. Squires

2/12/30

Date

~~SECRET~~ Office Notes

Arms Section,

Nov. 27th., 1930.

Sir,

Reference attached, as instructed, I visited Mr. Squires re his memo of 25th, November 1930 and he stated that he had no desire whatever to evade any instructions which the police may issue.

In this case he states that the pistol was imported under Huchao obtained by Mr. Perputuo and as this person was an employee of the S.M.C. he thought that it would be quite in order.

He also states that he gave Mr. Perputuo the attached letter and the pistol on the understanding that same was to be delivered to this office.

I have informed Mr. Squires of the procedure necessary and he states that in future all arms for disposal will be sent to this department by his firm direct.

I have interviewed Mr. Perputuo and directed him to regain possession of the pistol in question and return same to this office which he states he will do.

This has //
been done
+ a permit is
Keep issued to
Mr. Perputuo.

11/27/30.

Adcock
D. S. I.

P.A. (C. & S. B.).

Letter of explanation forwarded by Mr. Squires
(stamps)

Date

~~SECRET~~ Office Notes

Arms Section,

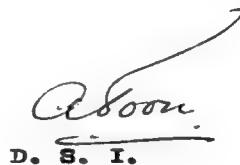
Nov. 26th., 1930.

Sir,

Reference attached, Mr. Perputuo of the S.M.C. Revenue Office, came to this office and stated that since he has received the .380 Colt, he does not like same and has presented same to a Chinese residing in Chapei.

I would like to draw your attention to the fact that during the last week several persons have made enquiries re the purchasing of pistols from this department and when told that we have none for sale, stated that they can purchase same from Messrs. Squires, Bingham, Ltd.

During this last month two applicants for licences have purchased their pistols through Squires, Bingham, Ltd. and as I understand that their is no firm in Shanghai allowed to import or offer for sale arms (other than sporting guns) may I suggest that Messrs. Squires, Bingham Ltd. be instructed that in future any person approaching them re the disposal of their arms be referred to this Department.


A. S. I.

P.A. (C. & S. B.).

De. 1. Toow instructed to see Mr Squires
for explanations. 
4/11/30

S. CHAIRMAN

ASSOC
WITH
SPORTS LTD.

SQUIRES, BINGHAM LTD.

INCORPORATED IN HONG KONG
ATHLETIC & SPORTS GOODS

R. W. SQUIRES GEN. MANAGER.

CABLE ADDRESS:
"SQUIS"
PHONE: 14770

SHANGHAI.

NOV 25th 30

S.M.C. Police Dept.

Arms Section.

Gentlemen;

We have to report the importation and sale of one 380 automatic Colt serial No 108676 to Mr Perputuo of the S.M.C Revenue Office, to whom we have delivered the gun.

Respectfully

Squires Bingham Ltd



Arms Section,

Sept. 5th., 1930.

P.A. (C. & S. B.)

Sir,

With reference to the attached, the two pistols recently imported by Messrs. Squires Bingham have been disposed of as follows:-

(1) One .38 Colt Super Auto. No. 7722 purchased on the approval of the S.M.P. by Mr.

S.M.P. (Signed) James A. Mason, American, Engineer employed by Messrs. Malcolm & Co. 57 Specimen Road. Residences - 57 Kungping Road. Pistol kept in the office Safe of above Company.

(2) One .380 Colt Auto. Pistol No. 107173, S.M.P. No. 3593 purchased as above by Mr. Roland Gribbottom, British, Cotton Mill Assistant Two Cotton Mills. Res:- 46 Yangtszepoo Road. Pistol carried by above named under licence No. 2002 issued on Sept. 1st. 1930.



D. S. I.




SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

"A" Division Station,

Date 28-8-1930

Subject (in full) Sale of firearms by Squires, Bingham & Co.

Made by _____ and Forwarded by Det. Supt. Peck

Sir,

I have seen Dr. Sellett with reference to the matter referred to in the attached file. He stated that in his opinion, as regards the sale of firearms, Americans here are subject to the Code of Laws for the District of Columbia. Dr. Sellett would not give a definite ruling on the matter but stated that he would be prepared to proceed under that Code against transgressors if the occasion arose.

Dr. Sellett stated he will personally warn Mr. Squires and instruct him to first obtain permission from the Municipal Police Department before completing any further sales of this nature.

P. C. (C. & S.B.)

ECI Information
2011/10-2012/05 S. Thomas S.C. (CAB)

3/15/30. Note above typed in carbon taken
P.S. K-501. Valid. Report attached. 3/15/30.

D.O.T.R. ~~and~~

Dr. (C.S.B.) would like you
to see Dr. Sellott personally
with reference to the points
No 1 + 2 enumerated in
attached report. It is not
considered advisable to
attempt prosecution in this
case but simply to
ascertain how we stand
with reference to future
cases of this kind.

~~48 hours~~
20/8/30.

Est.

Before further action is taken I am of opinion that Dr. Sedlet should be consulted on items No. 1 & No. 2 on DC (CSB) attached report.

I think we ought if the type laws are not on a proper applicable then the District basis. Even if of Columb in laws should be presented we would not desire to be considerably oppressed but we must work hard by safe guard the local public we have in & it would appear that the fundamental some law must apply and allows them to that Dr. Sedlet comes lay all to specific down such rules as would suit our purposes & at the same time persons won't causes to comply.

Sleight

Nov 1 1930

20/8/30

S. C. A. C.
DC (CSB)

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

Central Station,

REPORT

Date August 12th, 1930.

Subject (in full) Further report on Circumstances under which arms have been sold by Squires Bingham Company.

Made by D. S. I. Robinson

Forwarded by L. Maguire C.S.

Sir,

Mr. Bryan, M.A., was consulted in this matter and states that it is inadvisable to proceed against Mr. Squires through the Bye Laws, as it is still a moot point whether the Land Regulations and Bye Laws apply to American Citizens.

A bill is before the Senate, but has not yet been passed and various difficult situations might arise if the applicability was contested.

Under the Code of Laws for the District of Columbia, Sect. 857, a licence is necessary before arms can be sold by an American Citizen, but whether such application for a licence should be made direct or through the U. S. Consul or even to the S.M.C. is not definitely known.

Again the S.M.C. would perhaps refuse such an application on the grounds of creating a precedent.

Mr. Bryan suggests that before any action is contemplated, Mr. Squires should be definitely warned that in the event of further sale, he will be proceeded against.

I respectfully suggest that certain conditions as mentioned in my previous report be made clear to Mr. Squires by some person in authority. From the attitude of Mr. Squires when interviewed, he appears to be genuine and willing to conform with any such requirements or regulations as laid down.

2. D. S. I. Robinson

504(7513)

D. S. I.

Under the circumstances I recommend no prosecution -
D. D. C. "A" Perhaps the Arms Section will
provide the S. I. with conditions
for future guidance please.

17th August 1930

6/3/30

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

10 9783

Central Station,

REPORT

Date August 9th, 1930.

Subject (in full) Circumstances under which arms have been sold by Squires
Bingham Company.

Made by D. S. I. Robinson

Forwarded by *Inspect. Darter*

Sir,

In accordance with instructions contained in P.A. C.&S. Branch memo of 29-7-30 I interviewed Mr. Squires of Squires Bingham Co. in re.

He stated that he had purchased the pistol in question from an American named Stewart who was formerly employed at the Savoy Hotel and who left Shanghai about five months ago. Enquiries were made at the Savoy Hotel and it was ascertained that nobody of the name of Stewart has worked there for the last 10 years.

Further enquiries revealed that an American Citizen named Stewart, who left Shanghai six months ago, was formerly employed as manager at the Premier Cafe, Frenchtown.

Following receipt of File 9783, I again, in company with D. S. Darters as a witness, interviewed Mr. Squires at 3:45 p.m. 8-8-30 and was informed as follows:

Mr. Squires stated that in practically every case of sale of arms, the pistol or revolver was left with him by some person leaving China, or as in the case of the pistol purchased from Mrs. Lyman, left with him by the relatives of some person deceased.

He stated that he had kept no records of these sales, either from whom it was purchased and in turn to whom sold, number or make of pistol.

Further that he only recollects selling one pistol to an Army Officer some two years ago. He assured me that he has not sold more than 6 pistols in all and that he has none in stock at present.

The system appears to be very lax and Mr. Squires asked me exactly what was required of him in the event of having a pistol

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

Central Station,

Date August 9th, 1930.

Subject (in full)

Page 2

Made by

Forwarded by

G. H. Hatchings

offered to him for sale.

I suggested that in the first place he should ascertain full particulars of the seller, keeping the pistol meanwhile, and acquaint the Police of the full facts before the purchase is actually completed and then in turn forward full particulars of any intended customer before re-selling.

These were however only suggestions and in answer to his query as to who could give him actual Police requirements, I informed him to apply direct to the Commissioner of Police.

The phrasing of the evidence given by Mr. Squires at H.B.M. Police Court as published in the N.C. Daily News 7-8-30 is not quite correct, the actual deposition reading "In answer to the Court", "I was not suspicious of any officer purchasing a revolver in this way especially as this officer was leaving by boat and wanted it at once".

D. D. H. Robinson

D. S. I.

5576-5

Forwarded to
for re-mission
Dr. B. S. Law.

D. D. H. "A"

15

(C. & S.B.) Office Notes

D.D.O. "A" dis

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
File No. I. D. REGISTRY
No. L. O. 9783
Date 8-8-30

Attached herewith cutting from
N.C.D. news with reference to sale of
firearms by Squires, Birmingham U.S.,
which implies that a certain amount
of arms & ammunition are kept in
stock for purposes of sale.

E.C.P. states that Mr. Bryan
should be seen (after inquiries have
been made) with a view of ascertaining
whether the firm can be prosecuted
under Bye-Law 85.

For [unclear] 100000
S. C. I. D. 8-8-30
[unclear] 8-8-30
[unclear] 8-8-30

100000
S. C. I. D. 8-8-30

SOLDIER CHARGED WITH FRAUD

Alleged to Have Obtained Ring, Saxophone, Pistol With Aid of Forged Documents

DECISION TO BE GIVEN TO-DAY

* See Cr. Reg
C 1384

Pte. David Irvine Murie, of the R.A.M.C., appeared on remand at H. M. Police Court yesterday on three charges of uttering forged documents with intent to cheat and defraud. Seven other charges of obtaining goods by false pretences were held in abeyance pending the decision of the Registrar (Mr. C. H. Haines) regarding an application for his committal for trial at H. M. Supreme Court made by the Assistant Municipal Advocate, Mr. R. S. W. Winter.

The three charges proceeded with yesterday concerned a diamond ring supplied by Mr. Carl Mondenach, 177 Bubbling Well Road, on July 4, a pistol and ammunition handed to the accused by Messrs. Squires, Bingham, Ltd., 52 Nanking Road, on July 8; and a saxophone provided by Messrs. S. Moutrie & Co., Ltd., on July 12.

It was alleged that the accused obtained possession of these articles by representing himself to be the batman of "Lieut. Murie," "Capt. Murie" in person, and the servant of fictitious or former officers in the local Defence Force.

Decision To-day

The Registrar, who was accompanied on the bench during part of the proceedings by his Lordship Judge G. W. King, said that he would give his decision regarding Mr. Winter's application at 10 a.m. to-day.

Mr. Eric Brooks, salesman of Messrs. S. Moutrie & Co., Ltd., said that on July 12 his firm received a telephone message purporting to be from "Lieut. Murie" of the R.A.M.C., in consequence of which the accused was given a saxophone against an I.O.U. signed by "Lieut. Murie" and guaranteed by a "Major Rowlette." It had since been found that neither of these men was in Shanghai.

Lieut. Herbert Whitfield Daukes, of the R.A.M.C., said that he knew a Major Rowlette of the R.A.M.C. who had left Shanghai at about the end of last February and was now in Hongkong. The signature on the I.O.U. given to Messrs. Moutrie, while not unlike that of Major Rowlette was not his. There was no "Lieut. Murie" here.

Mr. R. W. Squires said that he was the proprietor of Messrs. Squires, Bingham, Ltd., 52 Nanking Road. On July 8 the accused examined some pistol and ammunition and selected a pistol which he said was for "Lieut. G. W. M. Smith" of the R.A.M.C., who was leaving immediately for Tientsin. He took this pistol and some ammunition away at 3 p.m. after giving an I.O.U. and an order signed by "Lieut. Smith." In answer to the Court, Mr. Squires said he was not suspicious of the accused at the time as it was usual for officers to purchase pistols from him in this way.

Poor Imitation

Capt. Alexander Graham, of the R.A.O.C., then gave evidence to the effect that a "Lieut. Smith" had been stationed in Shanghai until July 8, when he left for Tientsin. He was well acquainted with this Lieut. Smith's handwriting. The I.O.U. and order purporting to have been written by him and given to Messrs. Squires, Bingham were "most certainly" not in his handwriting, but were a very poor imitation.

Mr. Carl Mondenach said that he was the proprietor of a jewellery shop at 177 Bubbling Well Road. On July 4 in consequence of a telephone message received from "Capt. Murie" of the R.A.M.C., he handed the accused two necklaces and one chain on approval. These were returned by the accused with the statement that "Capt. Murie" did not consider them good enough and would like instead to buy some diamond rings. Two diamond rings, one valued at \$600 and the other at \$300, were given to him against his receipt. The ring valued at \$300 had been returned; but the other was missing. The accused said that "Capt. Murie" would pay for this ring on July 28. When inquiries were made at the Military Hospital for this "Capt. Murie" the accused said that he was very sick but that he (the accused) had been authorized to arrange a guarantee on "Capt. Murie's" behalf with a "higher up" officer. This "guaranteee" was forthcoming. It was signed by "Capt. Murie" and by a "Major J. Rowlette."

Lieut. Daukes, recalled, said that no officer answering to either of these names was stationed in Shanghai.

August 6th., 1930.

P.A. (C. & S.B.).

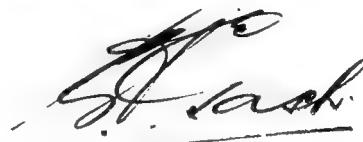
Sir,

On August 5th I received the attached letter from Messrs Squires Bingham Ltd., notifying the Police of the sale of a Colt auto. pistol which was formerly the property of the late Mr. Lyman.

The purchase was made on July 31st by one Yao Zung residing at 31 Medhurst Road who called at this office this morning with the weapon and made application for a licence to carry same.

Yao Zung a youth of barely 21 is a student at St. John's University. He already has a bodyguard permit for two Chinese attendants and in view of his age and the fact that he is still at school I do not think it advisable to grant him permission to carry himself.

With regard to the sale of the pistol I beg to draw your attention to the fact that the Police were not notified of the transaction until after the sale had been completed. This is not in keeping with the usual procedure adopted by Squires Bingham Ltd. and I suggest they be reminded that they are not licensed to sell firearms, and that transactions of this nature are permitted expressly by the C. of P. after the approval of the prospective purchaser.



D. S. I.

NO ROAD
LUX 819

SQUIRES, BINGHAM LTD.

ATHLETIC & SPORTS GOODS

SHANGHAI.

10. 9783

CABLE ADDRESS:
"SQUIS"
PHONE: 14770

July 31st 30

Police Dept. S.M.C.

C. I. D.

Gentlemen ;

We have to report the sale of one Colt 32 Cal
pistol Serial No. 442969, formerly owned by the late
Mr Lyman, of Standard Oil. Purchased by Mr Yau Zung
31 Medhurst Road,

Respectfully

Squires Bingham Co.

W.W. Squires

KING ROAD
P. BOX 819

SQUIRES, BINGHAM CO.

ATHLETIC & SPORTS GOODS

CABLE ADDRESS:
"SQUIS"
PHONE: 14770

SHANGHAI.

July 25th 30

Commissioner of Police
Shanghai
Sir;

In reply to your letter in reference to the sale of one pistol to Pvt Murie, who posed as the representative of a British Army Officer we wish to offer the following explanation.

We have been in business for many years in Shanghai selling sporting goods of all kinds including sporting guns and ammunition under Municipal regulations.

Last year we took an order an American citizen of Shanghai for one Colt pistol to be imported under a permit issued by the Chinese Govt. When it was received and ready for delivery Mr Smith asked the Police for a permit to possess and we reported the sale to the C.I.D Mr Sharman.

We discussed the matter with him very fully and he advised us that it would be satisfactory to the Police if we should report each sale or importation of any gun for an individual and this we have done in every case.

The C.I.D file will no doubt contain our letters regarding each sale in detail as to where the gun was obtained and to whom sold. The gun not being delivered before permit was obtained or the gun being placed in the care of the Police until permit was issued.

In this sale in question we were under the impression that Army Officers were not required to obtain permits from the Police and so, as we were certain that the sale was for an Officer that we did not think it would be necessary to report it, as done with Civilians.

We have no intention or desire to evade any regulations and we were careful to report each sale and all the business done, which is very small, has been done under direct supervision of the Police and under knowledge of the C.I.D Dept.

Trusting that this will be satisfactory.

Respectfully

Squires Bingham Co

R.W. Squires

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

Special Branch.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

SPECIAL REGISTRATION

No. 1. O. 9783.

Date 21. 8. 30.

Subject (in full) Catalogue on various Gas Throwing Guns
and Instruments.Made ~~by~~ and

Forwarded by S.D.L. J. A. Prince.

Sir,

I beg to forward for your information the attached
"Catalogue on Gas Throwing Guns &c" which was sent to me by
Mr R.W.Squires, of Messrs Squires-Bingham C/o, Nanking Road.

Please note that Mr Squires wishes this Catalogue returned to
him as it is the only one he has.

J. A. Prince
C. S. I.

D. C.

Cr' & Sp' Branches.

Req
Please add subject
file in J.R.

J. A. Prince
Information I do
not think we need such
things

W. H. J. A.
19/8

J. A. Prince
S.C. (C.S.)

87 (fb) 7
19/8
11

S. C. (fb)
Please add subject
file in J.R.
to Reg J.R.

S.O.

File No. 9783.

(C.I.D.) Office Notes

November 22-1928

Sir,

With reference to attached
enquiries go to show that Squires
Bingham and Coy, no 17A Hanbury
Road do not possess a licence
to sell firearms. No firearms
are imported by them for retail
purposes other than sporting guns,
but in the event of any person
in possession of a pistol or rifle
wishing to dispose of same Squires
Bingham & Coy will take the
firearm in stock and endeavour
to find a buyer. In this
manner they have disposed of
several revolvers to Captains
of coasting and river steamers
and on occasion a sporting
rifle has been sold for defence
purposes on board ship. They,
however, generally recommend a
sporting gun with "buck" shot
as being more effective for this
purpose.

Mr Squires has been interviewed
and informed that it is irregular
to accept firearms for sale unless
the owner is in possession of a
licence to do so. He stated
that he was not aware of this
order, but that in future all
regulations would be conformed
with

with and the Police notify
of any future transaction
of this nature.
Files re this subject attached.

W. H. C. Meenan
W.S.

H. C. I.

H.R.
23¹¹/₂₈ J.M.B.

A.C. (pol)

Please notify for Leg:
to keep an eye on these
people with a view to
prosecution.
23/11 Recd

Home Section

To note
23/11 Recd

Noted off 23/11/28

Foreign Section,

Passed to you to note please

Noted

H.R. 24¹¹/₂₈

J.M.B.

Memorandum.

10.9983

FROM THE POLICE FORCE.
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.
STATION.

STATION.
Shanghai, November 16, 1928

To

CHAMBERS POLICE
C. I. D. REGISTRY
No. 1. C. ~~16~~ 11-28
Date 16-11-28

Information has been received
that Squires Bingham & Co have
sold rifles and revolvers to a
representative of a Yangtze Shipping
Co. Please ascertain if this firm is
dealing in arms, and if they have
a license wds etc.

W. G. Wiers
8-1611128

Shanghai Municipal Police

C. I. D.

I. O. REQ

Date 24/8/26
Ref 1216

Intelligence Office

Station.

August 23 1926

REPORT ON Rumoured sale of munitions for Canton at Messrs Squires, Bingham Coy., 17A Nanking Road.

Made by D. S. Telfer

Forwarded by W W Kay D. I.

Sir,

Between the 9th and 11th August, 1926, a Chinese named Wong Han Tsong (黃漢忠) approached Mr. J.W. Baldwin, proprietor of Messrs Squires, Bingham Coy, and asked for quotations for 50,000 and 100,000 empty Shotgun Cartridges (Type of same attached) for sending to Canton. The Chinese admitted he was making those enquiries for a native friend, who could quite easily get a Canton Huchow for importation of same. However, Mr. Baldwin did not entertain the subject owing to the difficulty in getting the Huchows necessary for shipment to Shanghai, and also the possibility which the cases when filled may be used for in Canton.

Wong Han Tsong (黃漢忠) alias H.T. Wong is employed as a secretary in the United States Department of Commerce, 3 Canton Road. He is a native of Szechuen and his position with the U.S. Department of Commerce allows him to encourage Chinese, who make enquiries for goods, to buy those which are made in U.S.A. Wong admits that one evening about the beginning of August 1926 he had been asked by an old Szechuen friend named Wong Kwei Chi (黃季植) in the Oriental Hotel (Sincere Building), Nanking Road, if it was possible for him to obtain quotations for various quantities of Shotgun Cartridges. This friend had just come from Szechuen, and had bought medicine (possibly opium) there for Canton. He intended on his way to Canton to see if it was possible to open up a contract here for a Chinese dealer, in sports munitions at his destination who sold such cartridges to the Merchant Volunteer

Shanghai Municipal Police.

Station.

192

REPORT ON

Made by

Forwarded by

- 2 -

Corps there, who are armed with shotguns to safeguard the villages, in the Canton district, from attacks by brigands. Previous to H.T. Wong making enquiries for the Shotgun Cartridges he had told Mr. G.C. Howard, Trade Commissioner of the U.S. Department of Commerce, and had been advised by him to see Squires, Bingham Coy. on the matter. It is unknown if the contract for the goods mentioned was intended to be based on the "Gradual Delivery" scale. However, the enquiries have dropped since Squires, Bingham Coy refused to entertain same.

I am, Sir,

Yours obediently,

Alexander Deger

D. S.

D. C. I.

W.H.

Remington

"Nitro Club"

Loaded with standard brands of bulk and dense smokeless powders; made in 10, 12, 16, 20 and 28 gauges; using No. 33 primer; $\frac{1}{2}$ inch brass head, "Wetproof" throughout. Regularly packed 25 in a box, 500 to a case.

Received from 9/DCS.

1. O. D.

24/8/26

A rumour is current to the effect that a few days ago a Chinese called at the shop of Messrs Squires Bingham with whom he placed an order for 100,000 Carded Buckshot. The prospective buyer was supposed to be in possession of a Customs "Huochow" or permit issued in Canton.

Please have enquiries made.

Shanghai Municipal Police.

3266
No. 351120
Date

CENTRAL POLICE Station.

January 22nd 1920.

REPORT ON Sale of Firearms by Squires Bingham, 17 Nanking Road.

Made by D.S.I. Sullivan.

Forwarded by

Chief Detective Officer.

Sir,

The following is a copy of a report submitted by D.I. Burnside on Sept. 8th 1919. The enquiries were made in connection with the death of Weiss.

"With reference to the statement of Rose Stevens dated 6:2:19 " "I beg to report having to-day made enquiries from Messrs " "Squires Bingham, whose shopassistant, Mr. Remedios informs " "me that:-

"At about the beginning of this year a foreigner probably " "Russian, but might be taken for a Frenchman, came to the shop " "and purchased a "Perabulur" automatic pistol with about 100 " "rounds of (flat nosed) ammunition in packets of 20, for " "\$100.00 cash. At about the end of July or beginning of " "August this same man giving his address as No. 67 Broadway " "returned to the shop with the ^{Perabulur} revolver and 8 rounds of " "ammunition in the clip and requested that Messrs Squires Bingham " "try to sell same for \$75.00 but the meantime advance him " "\$50.00 for a period of three weeks. This was done. In the " "firm's records is a card memo "Perambalam revolver" 67 " "Broadway. Loan \$50.00 to be paid 31st August 1919. Sell " "for nett \$75.00. Mr. Remedios has promised to retain the " "revolver and inform the Police should the man return.

Parabellum
G.M.

(Signed) J. Burnside.

D.I.

Acting on instructions I interviewed the Superintendent of Revenue on the morning of the 22nd inst. and informed him

C. I. D.
A. O. D. C.
28/11/26

Shanghai Municipal Police.

Station.

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REPORT ON

Made by

Forwarded by

that Squires Bingham, although not licensed to sell firearms, had sold the revolver and suggested that one of the Inspectors of Revenue might call on Messrs Messrs Squires Bingham and inform them of the necessity of having a license before firearms could be sold.

The Superintendent of Revenue replied that the course suggested was very unusual and in turn suggested a prosecution for selling the revolver.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. J. Sullivan
D.S.I.

Chief Detective Officer.